

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-15 /126 W

-----054214 182059Z /63

R 180728Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2460
INFO EC COLLECTIVE
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 2146

ALSO FOR USEEC
ALSO FOR USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, NL
SUBJECT: DUTCH ASSESSMENT OF U.S. INDUSTRIAL TARIFF OFFERS

1. MIN ECON OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR GATT AFFAIRS (WINTERMANS)
HAS REVEALED GON DECIDED SOME TIME AGO TO SUPPORT EC POSITION
AFTER DUTCH HAD EARLIER EXAMINED U.S.'S GREATER-THAN-FORMULA
CUTS ON INDUSTRIAL TARIFFS AND HAD FOUND THE LIST DISAPPOINTING.
HE AGREED THAT SOME OF THE CUTS (ESPECIALLY THOSE ON ORGANIC
CHEMICALS) WERE INTERESTING TO DUTCH, BUT SAID DUTCH WOULD HAVE
BEEN MORE INTERESTED IF U.S. HAD PROVIDED NEW OPPORTUNITIES
FOR DUTCH EXPORTS AND HAD NOT COME UP WITH SO MANY EXCEPTIONS
IN THE FACE OF EC OFFER OF 41.6 PERCENT CUT WITH NO INITIAL
EXCEPTIONS. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, DUTCH BELIEVED THEIR
BEST INTERESTS WOULD BE SERVED BY SUPPORTING EC IN REQUESTING
REDUCTIONS IN U.S. EXCEPTIONS. HE CAUTIONED THAT DEGREE OF
U.S. RESPONSE WOULD GUIDE DUTCH AND EC IN DECIDING WHETHER AND,
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IF SO, TO WHAT EXTENT EC WOULD ESTABLISH ITS OWN EXCEPTIONS
LIST BY WITHDRAWING OFFERS.

2. WINTERMANS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE FROM
NETHERLANDS POINT OF VIEW IF MTN COULD BE BROUGHT TO AN EARLY
AND SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION AND SAID NEW GON WAS FULLY COMMITTED
TO FREER WORLD TRADE. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT AN EARLY CONCLUSION

OF MTN WITH RELATIVELY MODEST IMPROVEMENTS MIGHT BE THE MOST
THAT COULD NOW BE EXPECTED. HE QUICKLY ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT
MTN SHOULD PREPARE WAY FOR SUBSEQUENT, RELATIVELY QUIET EFFORTS
WITHIN GATT MECHANISM TO GET ON WITH JOB OF HARMONIZING
REMAINING NON-TARIFF BARRIERS WHICH DUTCH BELIEVE WILL STILL
OFFER MOST FRUITFUL AREA FOR OPENING UP WORLD TRADE AND WILL
REQUIRE CONTINUING LONG-TERM ATTENTION.
BROWN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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